

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Robert A. Immerman and Russell Benton Snell
Serial No. : 09/822,154 Confirmation No.: 6306

REMARKS

This Response replies to the Office Action mailed August 11, 2004.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102

The Examiner has rejected claim 22 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Rodack D442,002. Applicant herein cancels claim 22 and requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-5 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Finger, U.S. Patent No. 5,588,543 in view of Thalenfeld, U.S. Patent No. 5,887,731. Applicant herein cancels claims 1-5 and 25 and requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

The Examiner has rejected claims 11-15 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Finger, U.S. Patent No. 5,588,543 in view of Thalenfeld, U.S. Patent No. 5,887,731 and further in view of Raphael, U.S. Patent No. 3,181,702. Applicant herein cancels claims 11-15 and requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant appreciates that the Examiner has allowed claims 23, 24, and 26. However, applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's comment, on page 7 of the Office Action, that the prior art does not show the fixture as claimed and a suction cup. Applicant believes that the reference to a suction cup is not necessary; the prior art does not show the fixture

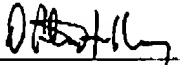
as claimed. Also, Applicant's invention does not claim a suction cup but merely claims that the invention can be used with a suction cup, see claim 23, lines 4-5 ("for use with a suction cup").

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance, and such action is requested. No new matter has been added. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if there are any matters which could be discussed to expedite the prosecution of the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,

By: _____


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